

MINUTES
May 28, 2009
9:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Jeff Goltz, Chairman
Philip Jones, Commissioner
Pat Oshie, Commissioner

The Regular meeting of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission was called to order on May 28, 2009, by Chairman Goltz.

E)1. 1-000 Consent Agenda

Disposition: Commissioner Jones moved to approve the consent agenda and direct the Secretary to sign orders and/or letters necessary to affect each action. Chairman Goltz seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0).

UTILITIES:

A)1. 1:39 Docket Number UE-090704; Puget Sound Energy; General rate increase to recover increased electric costs. Annual revenue impact is approximately \$148,148,000 million (7.4 percent). Tariff Revision

Appearances: Mike Parvinen, staff

Disposition: Commissioner Jones moved to issue a Complaint and Order suspending the tariff revisions. Chairman Goltz seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

A)2. 1:39 Docket Number UG-090705; Puget Sound Energy; General rate increase to recover increased natural gas costs. Annual revenue impact is approximately \$27,199,117 million (2.2 percent). Tariff Revision

Appearances: Mike Parvinen

Disposition: Commissioner Jones moved to issue a Complaint and Order suspending the tariff revisions. Chairman Goltz seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

A)3. 3:09 Docket Number UG-090706; Puget Sound Energy; Less than statutory notice request to decrease rates for PSE's natural gas customers reflecting lower wholesale natural gas prices. Tariff Revision

Appearances: Michael Foisy, staff

Disposition: Commissioner Jones moved to enter an Order granting exemption from notice requirements and allowing the substituted tariff revision to become effective June 1, 2009, on less than statutory notice. Chairman Goltz seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

A)4. 6:47 Docket Number UG-090684; Northwest Natural Gas Company ; Less than statutory notice request to establish a new adjustment schedule to apply a onetime adjustment for reduction in wholesale natural gas prices. Tariff Revision

Appearances: Joanna Huang, staff

Disposition: Commissioner Jones moved to enter an Order granting exemption from notice requirements and allowing the substituted tariff revision to become effective June 1, 2009, on less than statutory notice. Chairman Goltz seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

A)5. 11:42 Docket Number UG-090767; Avista Corporation; Less than statutory notice request to decrease rates for Avista's natural gas customers reflecting lower wholesale natural gas prices. Tariff Revision

Appearances: Danny Kermode, staff

Disposition: Commissioner Jones moved to enter an Order granting exemption from notice requirements and allowing the substituted tariff revision to become effective June 1, 2009, on less than statutory notice. Chairman Goltz seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

A)6. Docket Number UW-090455; Company Seventy Nine dba: Red Mountain Water Association; General rate increase to generate \$10,000 (20 percent) additional annual revenue. The company serves about 84 customers near Richland in Benton County. The company's last rate increase was effective August 1, 1994. Tariff Revision

Appearances: Chris Mickelson, staff

The commission took no action, allowing the proposed rates to become effective June 1, 2009, by operation of law.

A)7. 16:00 Docket Number UW-090516; Cristalina, LLC; Adds a surcharge of \$32 per month to service a \$555,000 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan approved by the Public Works Board. The surcharge would generate \$32,256 (71 percent) additional annual revenue. The company serves 84 customers near Ravensdale in eastern King County. The surcharge will expire on June 1, 2029, or upon recovery of \$555,000 in principal, whichever comes first. Tariff Revision

Appearances: Amy White, staff

Disposition: Commissioner Jones moved to grant the request for a surcharge to service a \$555,500 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan approved by the Public Works Board, subject to conditions set forth in staff's memorandum. Chairman Goltz seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

A)8. 18:25 Docket Number UW-090655; Rainier View Water Company, Inc. ; Tariff revisions to update the current Treatment Surcharge. This filing reduces the surcharge from \$3.29 per month to \$1.81 per month. This reduction removes the chemical treatment operations and maintenance expenses from the surcharge. The remaining portion of the surcharge will be used to pay off the loan used to construct the treatment facilities. The company serves about 16,650 residential and upsize meter customers in Pierce County. The proposed effective date is June 1, 2009. Tariff Revision

Appearances: Jim Ward, staff

Disposition: Commissioner Jones moved to issue a Complaint and Order suspending the Tariff Revisions and to allow the proposed rates to become effective June 1, 2009, on temporary basis, subject to refund. Chairman Goltz seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

A)9. 21:35 Docket Number UW-090662; Roche Harbor Water System ; Surcharge increase that would generate \$36,000 (11.7 percent) in additional annual revenue. The company proposes to increase rates to recover the cost of water treatment filter media. The company filed a petition for waiver of WAC 480-07-505 and WAC 480-07-530 concerning requirements for filings to accompany a general rate filing. Roche Harbor serves 563 customers on San Juan Island located in San Juan County. The proposed effective date is June 1, 2009. The company's last rate increase was May 2008. Tariff Revision

Appearances: Jim Ward, staff

Disposition: Commissioner Jones moved to take no action, allowing the proposed rates to become effective June 1, 2009, by operation of law, grant the company's request for an exemption from WAC 480-07-505 General Rate Proceedings, Filing Requirements definitions, and grant the company's request for an exemption from WAC 480-07-530 General Rate Proceedings, Filing Requirements financial information. Chairman Goltz seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

TRANSPORTATION:

B)1. 25:17 Docket Number TG-082230; Sanitary Service Co., Inc.

dba: Sanitary Service Company and Recycling Service; Commission consideration of whether to allow the temporary rates for residential recycling and yard waste services to become permanent. The revised rates at staff-recommended levels would generate approximately \$61,738 (7.0 percent) in additional annual revenue. The company provides solid waste service to 17,500 residential customers in Whatcom County. Tariff Revision

Appearances: Nicki Johnson, staff

Disposition: Commissioner Jones moved to dismiss the Complaint and Order Suspending the Tariff revisions and to allow the temporary rates to become effective June 1, 2009, on a permanent basis. Chairman Goltz seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

B)2. 27:35 Docket Number TG-090087; Rubatino Refuse Removal, Inc.
; Commission consideration of whether to allow the temporary rates for garbage, recycling and yard waste collection services to become permanent. The revised rates at staff-recommended levels would generate approximately \$1,650,000 (11.7 percent) in additional annual revenue. The company serves approximately 19,000 customers in Snohomish County. Tariff Revision

Appearances: Nicki Johnson, staff

Disposition: Commissioner Jones moved to dismiss the Complaint and Order Suspending the Tariff revisions and to allow the temporary rates to become effective June 1, 2009, on a permanent basis. Chairman Goltz seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

B)3. Docket Number TG-090548; Torre Refuse and Recycling, LLC

dba: Sunshine Disposal & Recycling; General rate increase for solid waste collection service that would increase annual revenues approximately \$560,000 (21.5 percent). Staff determined the proposed rates were excessive and the company filed revised rates on May 18, 2009, that would generate approximately \$538,000 (20.6 percent) in additional annual revenue. The company serves approximately 5,800 residential and commercial regulated customers in

Spokane County. This is the company's first rate filing since acquiring the service area from Waste Management in 2007. Tariff Revision

Appearances: Layne Demas, staff

The commission took no action, allowing the proposed revised rates to become effective June 1, 2009, by operation of law.

B)4. 31:42 Docket Number TS-090381; Lake Chelan Recreation, Inc.
dba: Lake Chelan Boat Company; General rate case filing to support the company's current passenger service fares and sailing schedules. Tariff Revision

Appearances: Chris Mickelson, staff

Disposition: Commissioner Jones moved to take no action, allowing the proposed rates to become effective June 1, 2009, by operation of law, and issue a Complaint against rates. Chairman Goltz seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

OTHER: No Other items for this agenda.

RECESSED: No Recessed items for this agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 10:13 a.m.

Attested by _____
David Danner, Executive Director and Secretary